



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|---------------|----------------|
| PROJECT TITLE | Utility Right of Way Shaded Fuel Break | | |
| PROJECT LOCATION | Jackson Demonstration State Forest Fort Bragg, CA 95437 | COUNTY | Mendocino |
| LEAD AGENCY | California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) | | |
| CONTACT | Julie Rhoads, Forester I | | |
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) occupies an area of approximately 48,652 acres within Mendocino County, California. The JDSF Forest Management Plan and associated Fire Protection Plan has 87 miles of planned fire breaks that are intended to minimize the size and intensity of wildfires on JDSF. This project proposes to establish approximately 6 miles of fire break that is consistent with the Fire Protection Plan.

This project proposes to treat understory/ladder fuels in conjunction with a PG&E Utility Right of Way Exemption to remove danger trees. The project area increases the standard of fuel removal associated with clearance of danger trees where the utility line runs parallel to Highway 20 on a trending ridgeline. The majority of the fuels will be masticated utilizing a medium sized excavator with a masticator head. Where equipment access is limited due to topography, hand crews will cut and either loop and scatter or chip the resulting slash. Woody material chipped by the masticator or chipper will be broadcast and left dispersed on site.

Treatment prescription will include removing small trees of less than 11" DBH, slash from the danger tree removal project, and brush with either an excavator masticator or hand crew with chainsaws. The width of the shaded fuel break will vary from 100-245 feet in width depending upon access and slopes. Heavy equipment will be restricted to flat to moderate slopes and existing roads and skid trails. The limbs of the retention trees will be pruned up to 8-12 feet above the ground level.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4; 15304. Minor Alteration to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

The project meets the requirements of a CEQA Article 19 Class 4 Categorical exemption, consisting of "minor public/private alterations in the conditions of land, water and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature & scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes". The California Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDB) was searched and no rare, threatened or endangered plant or animal species were identified on the project site that will be negatively impacted by this project. The CAL FIRE Archaeologist has been consulted and has determined that this project is exempt from further archaeological review.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at JDSF Offices in Fort Bragg.

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

JUL 25 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

[Signature] 7/24/19

Helge Eng, Deputy Director Date
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Environmental Review Report for an Exempt Project

Note: This report form is intended for use by California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) staff to document a limited environmental impact analysis supporting the filing of a Notice of Exemption (NOE) document for a proposed CAL FIRE project. Although the project appears to fit within the descriptions for allowable Categorical Exemptions, this report presents CAL FIRE's review for possible "Exceptions" that would preclude finding the project to be categorically exempt as discussed in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2. This report will be filed with the CEQA administrative record for this project to document the environmental impact analysis conducted by the Department.

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Project Name: Utility Right-of-Way Shaded Fuel Break
Project Number: N/A
Program Type: Fire Protection
CAL FIRE Unit: Mendocino Unit (MEU); Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF)
County: Mendocino
Acres: 179 acres
Legal Location: Portions of Sections T18N, R17W, Sections 23, 25, 26, & 36; T18N, R16W, Sections 30-32; T17N, R16W, Sections 3-5; MDB&M.
Name of USGS 7.5' Quad Map(s): Noyo Hill and Mathison Peak
☒ Project Vicinity Map Attached ☒ Project Location Map Attached ☒ Photos Attached

Other Public Agency Review/Permit Required:

Would the project result in:

- Alterations to a watercourse (DFW - Lake and Stream Alteration Agreement)
Conversion of timberland (CAL FIRE - Conversion Permit or Exemption)
Demolition (Local Air District - Demolition Permit)
Soil disturbance over 1 acre (RWQCB - SWPPP)
Fill of possible wetlands (404 Permit - USACE)
Other:

YES

☐
☐
☐
☐
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☐

NO

☒
☒
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☒
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☒

Discuss any above-listed topic item checked Yes and consultation with agencies:

A Utility Right-of-Way Exemption is being filed concurrently for the harvesting of danger trees along the PG&E 60kV transmission line.

Project Description and Environmental Setting (Describe the project activities, project site and its surroundings, its location, and the environmental setting):

Jackson Demonstration State Forest (JDSF) occupies an area of 48,652 acres within Mendocino County, California. The JDSF Forest Management Plan and associated Fire Protection Plan has 87 miles of planned fire breaks that are intended to minimize the size and intensity of wildfires on JDSF. This project proposes to establish approximately 5.6 miles of fire break that is consistent with the Fire Protection Plan.

PG&E has been clearing danger trees along the the 60 kV Transmission Line that runs between Willits and Fort Bragg, with plans to begin work on JDSF in late summer, 2019. JDSF will be separately filing a Utility ROW Exemption to harvest danger trees removed in this project in the area between Bunker Gulch and James Creek. The proposal in *this* exemption is to treat understory/ladder fuels adjacent to a portion of the utility right-of-way in the area west of McGuire's Pond. The additional fuel break project is in an area that runs adjacent to Highway 20 and is adjacent to a ridgeline. Most fuels will be masticated utilizing a chipper. Where equipment access is limited due to topography, hand crews will cut and either lop and scatter or chip the resulting slash. Chipped and lopped woody material will be broadcast and left dispersed on site.

The treatment prescription will include removing small trees of less than 11" DBH and brush with either an excavator masticator or hand crew with chainsaws. The width of the shaded fuel break will vary from 200-400 feet depending upon access and slopes. Heavy equipment will be restricted to flat to moderate slopes and existing roads and skid trails. The limbs of the retention trees will be pruned up to 8-12 feet above the ground level.

Environmental Impact Analysis

Aesthetics

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

The treated fuel break area will extend the open appearance of the utility right-of-way when the additional understory vegetation is removed. The treated areas will improve aesthetic characteristics and be visually more appealing than current pre-treatment conditions. The area will remain forested upon completion of treatment. Aesthetics will temporarily be changed due to the removal of vegetation and small trees, but no adverse impacts will occur.

Agriculture and Forest Resources

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☐ Yes ☒ No Would any trees be felled? If yes, discuss protection of nesting birds and compliance with FPRs.
☐ Yes ☒ No Would the project convert any prime or unique farmland?
☐ Yes ☒ No Would the project result in the conversion of forest land or timberland to non-forest use?

- ☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

The project is designed to treat vegetation to reduce the vegetation fuel loads and fire hazard and create/maintain a vegetation fuel reduction zone. Large over story trees are not proposed for treatment other than pruning of lower limbs. Small non-commercial trees, un-merchantable commercial trees, small snags and understory shrub vegetation will be cut. Before any tree is felled it will be assessed for the presence of any nests. If any active nest is observed the tree will not be felled during the breeding season. No material will be sold, bartered or traded. No portion of the project would require a Timber Operations under the FPR. The removal of vegetation and small trees will not convert prime or unique farmland, convert forest/timberland to non-forest use. The project will not result in adverse impacts to Agriculture or Forest Resources.

Air Quality

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☒ Yes ☐ No The local Air Quality Management District guidelines for dust abatement and other air quality concerns were reviewed for this project.
☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

The removal of vegetation and small trees will not create significant fugitive dust conditions to become subject to Rules 1-400(a), 1-430(a) and 1-1430(b) of the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District. If fugitive dust becomes an issue, BMPs will be employed.

Biological Resources

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☐ Yes ☒ No Will the project potentially effect biological resources?
☒ Yes ☐ No Was a current NDDB review completed? Results discussed below:
☒ Yes ☐ No Was a biological survey of the project area completed? Results discussed below:
☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

JDSF staff evaluated biological resources in the project area. The California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) was searched on June 22, 2018 and June 14, 2019. The project area contains one known occurrence of *Piperia candida* (white-flowered rein orchid), located in a skid trail / PGE access trail. This plant is rank 1B.2. The skid trail is planned for modification as part of THP #1-18-029 MEN ("23 Gulch"). The location is flagged with a Special Treatment Zone, which will exclude equipment. There is no other known occurrence of any plant or animal species listed by either State or Federal agency as threatened, endangered, or candidate within the project area. Multiple adjacent Timber Harvest Plans have scoped for biological resources.

The implementation of this project will not have a significant impact to watercourses or other identified biological resources identified in the CNDDDB review. See attached table of animal species considered in the CNDDDB and consideration of potential impacts.

Cultural Resources

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Was a current archaeological records check completed? Results discussed below:
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Was a CAL FIRE Staff or Contract Archaeologist consulted? Results discussed below:
- ☒ Yes ☐ No Was an archaeological survey of the project area completed? Results discussed below:
- ☐ Yes ☒ No Will the project effect any historic buildings or archaeological site?
- ☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

A current archaeological records check has been completed for the entire JDSF ownership (NWIC #16-2153). Written notifications to listed Native American contacts for the area of the project were mailed on June 5, 2019. An archaeological survey and report has been prepared, reviewed, and approved by CAL FIRE Associate State Archeologist Ben Harris.

The treatment of vegetation and small trees will have minimal below-the-ground disturbance. The project will have no disturbance to any identified archaeological resource. No impact to any archeological or historical resource is expected due to the implementation of this project.

Geology and Soils

- ☒ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- ☐ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Treatment of small trees and vegetation will not alter the soils or geology of the area of the project.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- ☐ Yes ☒ No Would the project generate significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions?
- ☐ Yes ☒ No Would these GHG emissions result in a significant impact on the environment? Discuss below:
- ☐ Yes ☒ No Would the project conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases? Discuss below:

The implementation of this project will involve the use of one excavator, utility vehicle, chipper, crew busses and chainsaws. It is estimated that the total time needed to complete the work associated with this project is 40 days. The significance threshold CAL FIRE uses to determine significance has been established by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association as 900 tons/year for indirect sources (combined construction and operational emissions). It is estimated that emissions associated with the operation of equipment for this project is below this threshold.

The limited nature of this work and equipment use will not result in significant greenhouse gas emissions.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- ☒ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- ☐ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Hydrology and Water Quality

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- ☐ Yes ☒ No Will the project potentially affect any watercourse or body of water?
- ☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

The project is centered on top of a main trending ridge with no known watercourse within the project area. The location of the project will not result in any significant impact to water quality or hydrology.

Land Use and Planning

- ☒ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
- ☐ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Mineral Resources

- ☒ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☐ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Noise

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

There will be temporary and localized noise associated with this project when the excavator/masticator, chipper, and chainsaws are operating. The majority of the project is in an area that is remote with no residential neighbors or sensitive resources within the immediate area. The western portion is adjacent to a few small landowners. Timber harvest and utility line maintenance are ongoing projects in this vicinity. The implementation of the proposed project will not have a significant noise impact.

Population and Housing

- ☒ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☐ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Public Services

- ☒ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☐ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Recreation

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

The project area will be closed to the public during operations. This may temporarily affect trail and road access. These areas will reopen to the public at completion of operations and no further impact is anticipated.

Transportation/Traffic

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

Equipment will infrequently utilize encroachments to Highway 20. Highway access and the proposed treatment of vegetation and small trees will not have an adverse impact to traffic.

Utilities and Service Systems

- ☐ This topic does not apply to this project and was not evaluated further.
☒ This topic could apply to this project, and results of the assessment are provided below:

A 60KV Transmission line runs through the project area. There is sufficient clearance under the line for movement and staging of equipment. PG&E will be clearing danger trees along the transmission line, treating fuels within the right-of-way, and conducting routine maintenance.

Changes Made to Avoid Environmental Impacts:

None

Mandatory Findings of Significance:

| YES | NO |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

(a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

(b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probably future projects)

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

(c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

Justification for Use of a Categorical Exemption (discuss why the project is exempt, cite exemption number(s), and describe how the project fits the class):

This project fits under portions of two classes of Categorical Exemptions to CEQA: Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land). Most of the project activities will occur within previously disturbed areas. The areas where new ground disturbing activities might occur are limited and are best described as minor in scope. These areas were carefully inspected for environmental concerns. CALFIRE has determined this project will not impact the environment.

Conclusion:

☒ After assessing potential environmental impacts and evaluating the description for the various classes of Categorical Exemptions to CEQA, CAL FIRE has determined that the project fits within one or more of the exemption classes and no exceptions exist at the project site which would preclude the use of this exemption. The Department considered the possibility of (a) sensitive location, (b) cumulative impact, (c) significant impact due to unusual circumstances, (d) impacts to scenic highways, (e) activities within a hazardous waste site, and (f) significant adverse change to the significance of a historical resource. A Notice of Exemption will be filed at the State Clearinghouse.

☐ After assessing potential environmental impacts and evaluating the description for the various classes of Categorical Exemptions to CEQA, CAL FIRE has determined that the project does not fit within the description for the various exemption classes or has found that exceptions exist at the project site which precludes the use of a Categorical Exemption for this project. Additional environmental review will be conducted and the appropriate CEQA document used may be a Negative Declaration or a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

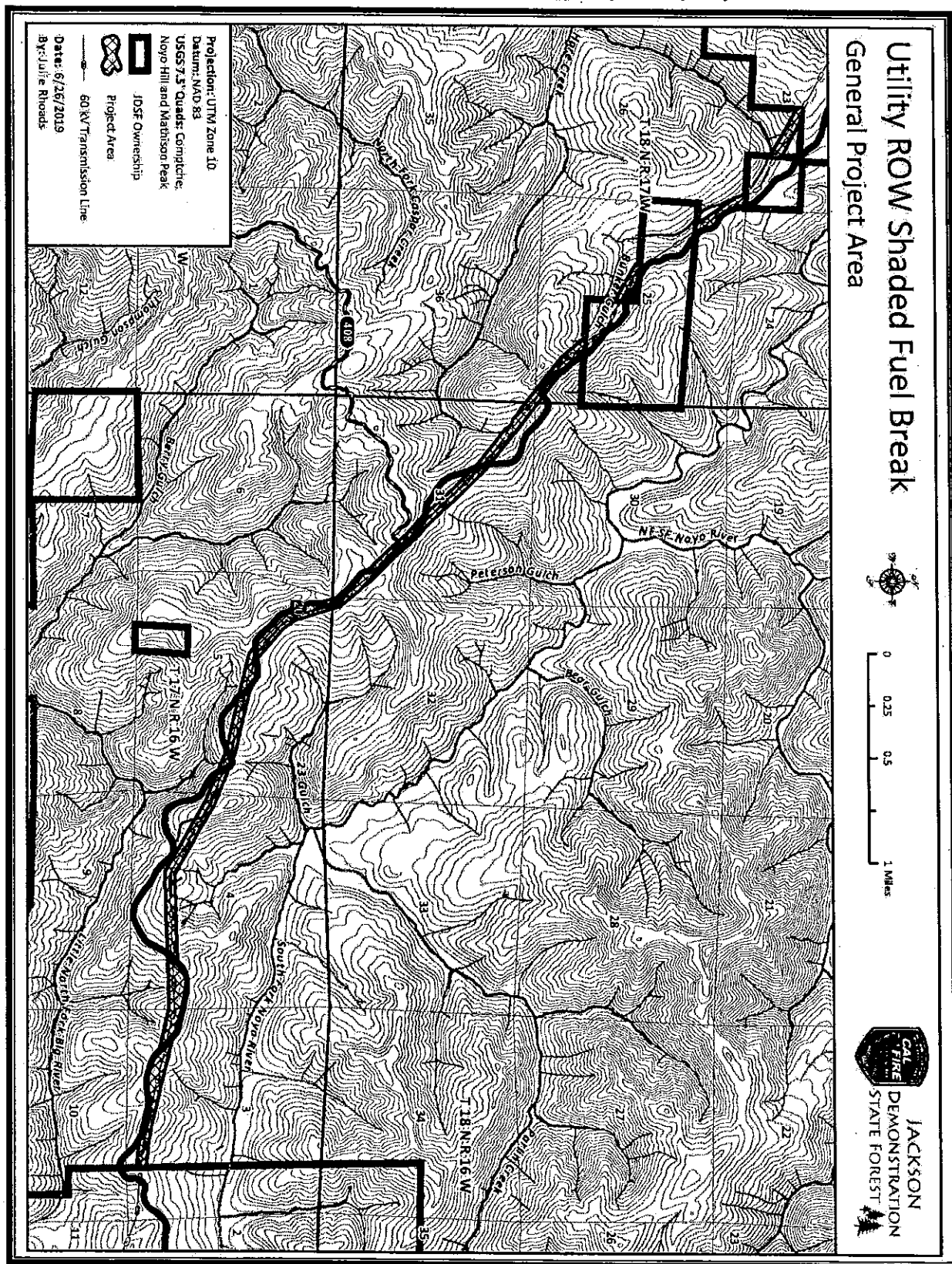


Figure 1. Project Area Map

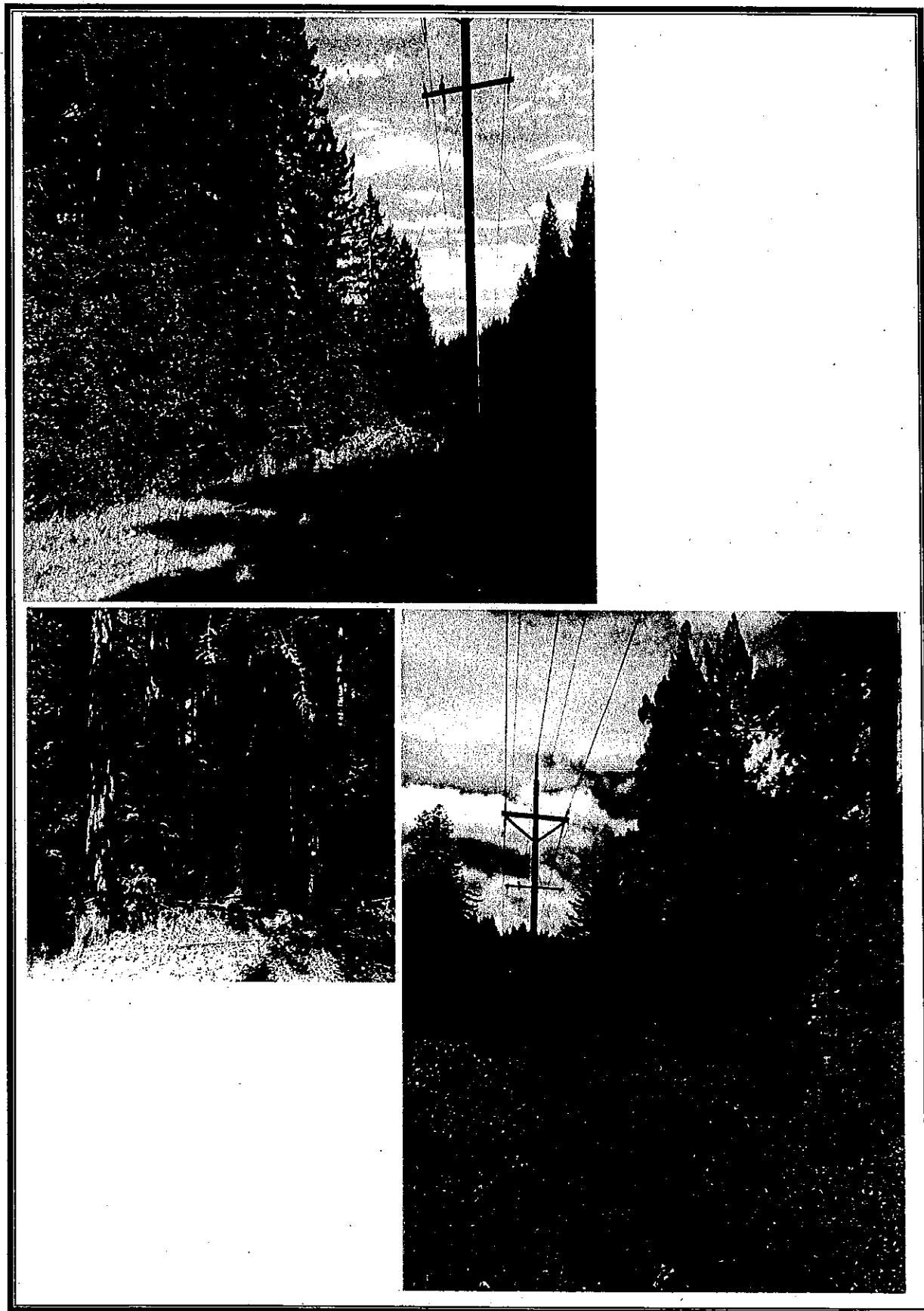


Figure 2. Example of Fuel Break Area Pre-Treatment

Utility ROW Shaded Fuel Break

JUNE 26, 2018

Biological Assessment – CNDDDB – 0.7 miles from project area

| Taxon Group | Scientific Name | Common Name | Federal Status | State Status | CDFW Status | CA Rare Plant Status | Project Within Species Habitat or Potential Effects on Species |
|-------------|--|--|----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|--|
| AMPHIBIANS | <i>Ascaphus truei</i> | Pacific tailed frog | None | None | SSC | - | The proposed project will not have a negative effect on these species or their associated habitat. |
| | <i>Rana aurora</i> | northern red-legged frog | None | None | SSC | - | |
| | <i>Rana boylei</i> | foothill yellow-legged frog | None | None | SSC | - | |
| BIRDS | <i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i> | northern spotted owl | Threatened | Candidate Threatened | SSC | - | |
| FISH | <i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i> | coho salmon - central California coast ESU | Endangered | Endangered | None | - | |
| | <i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i> | steelhead - northern California DPS | Threatened | None | SSC | - | |
| | <i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i> | chinook salmon - California coastal ESU | Threatened | None | None | - | |
| MAMMALS | <i>Arborimus pomo</i> | Sonoma tree vole | None | None | SSC | - | |
| PLANTS | <i>Coptis laciniata</i> | Oregon goldthread | None | None | None | 4.2 | |
| | <i>Hesperocyparis pygmaea</i> | pygmy cypress | None | None | None | 1B.2 | |
| | <i>Lycopodium clavatum</i> | running-pine | None | None | None | 4.1 | |
| | <i>Packera bolanderi</i> var. <i>bolanderi</i> | seacoast ragwort | None | None | None | 2B.2 | |
| | <i>Piperia candida</i> | white-flowered rein orchid | None | None | None | 1B.2 | |
| | | | | | | | Realigning skid trail in concurrent THP #1-18-029 MEN (23 Gulch) to avoid occurrence. |

Utility ROW Shaded Fuel Break

Legal: T18N, R17W, Sections 23, 25, 26, & 36; T18N, R16W, Sections 30-32; T17N, R16W, Sections 3-5; MDB&M
USGS 7.5' Quads: Mendocino, and Noyo Hill.

Animal Species Considered for Project-Related Negative Impacts

FE = Federally Endangered, FT = Federally Threatened, SE = State Endangered, ST = State Threatened, SC = State Candidate, SSC State Species of Concern, FP = Fully Protected CDFW WL = Watch List. CDF-S = Board of Forestry Sensitive species.

The federal ESA protects the species and its habitat, the state ESA protects only the species. State Candidates area treated as if they are listed until otherwise legislated. State Species of Concern is an administrative designation and carries no legal status but requires that the species should be considered during the environmental review process. FP = Fully protected species cannot be taken under any circumstances. CDF-Sensitive species warrant special protection during timber operations. The CDFW Watch List are species that were previously SSC but do not meet the SSC criteria, there is a need for additional information to clarify status.

| Species | Status | Comments on species natural history, or known distribution, or threats. | Likelihood to be found on JDSF, and/or in project area. | Assessment of Potential Impact to the Species |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| MAMMALS | | | | |
| Gray Wolf (<i>Canis lupus</i>) | SE (6/14/14), FE (in some regions) | Documented in the NE corner of the state beginning in 2011. | None. | No impact. |
| Humboldt Marten (<i>Martes caurina humboldtensis</i>) | SC (2/11/16), SSC | Only known to populate a small area in Del Norte and Humboldt County. Less than 100 individuals remain (CDFW). | None. | No impact. |
| Ringtail (<i>Bassariscus astutus</i>) | CDFW FP | Occurs statewide, especially in oak woodlands. A CDFW study in 1980 determined the species was widely distributed and should be removed from the Fully Protected list. | Known to occur on JDSF, probably at low densities. | No impact; species is mobile and can disperse easily. Larger trees that could serve as perches or resting habitat are not being removed by project. |
| Townsend's Big-eared Bat (<i>Corynorhinus townsendii</i>) | SSC | Uncommon statewide. Overwinters in large caves in large groups, breeds in small female groups in large basal hollows in forest or old buildings. | Scattered residual trees on JDSF have basal hollows with the min. recommended size: 1ft wide by 3 ft. tall. These are mostly in or near old growth areas. | No impact; trees with large basal would not be damaged by project. There are no abandoned buildings or caves within 400 ft. of the project area that could be considered overwintering habitat. |
| Pallid Bat (<i>Antrozous pallidus</i>) | SSC | Most common in open, dry habitat with rocky areas for roosting. | Unknown, but low likelihood. | No impact; project will not remove rocky areas. |
| Sonoma Tree Vole (<i>Arborimus pamo</i>) | SSC | Found from Sonoma north to the Oregon border. Nests in Douglas-fir trees along the coast in the fog belt. Eats the needles of Douglas-fir leaving the resin duct. | There are two CNDDDB records in the project area. Douglas-fir forest with coast redwood comprise the majority of JDSF. | There is a very low likelihood to impact Sonoma tree vole nests. There is no planned removal of large trees for the implementation of this project. Numerous Douglas-fir trees will remain for nesting habitat. No impact anticipated for this species. |

| Species | Status | Comments on species natural history, or known distribution, or threats. | Likelihood to be found on JDSF, and/or in project area. | Assessment of Potential Impact to the Species |
|--|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| Fisher (<i>Pekania pennanti</i>) | SSC, FC | Forested regions of the high Sierra and northern California, into Oregon, Washington and into Canada. Declined due to timber harvesting and trapping. | A few records have recently been made east of Hwy. 101 near Middletown and east of Willits in higher elevations. It is unlikely to occur on JDSF; several projects using baited trail cameras have not documented the fisher on JDSF. | No impact; the species is not known from JDSF, and project will not remove trees that could serve as resting platforms or with very large cavities. |
| American badger (<i>Taxidea taxus</i>) | SSC | Grassland | None | No impact; species not present in coniferous forest. |
| BIRDS | | | | |
| Northern Spotted Owl (<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>) | ST, FT | Occurs in northern CA. Currently mostly threatened by invasion by the barred owl, wildfire, and long-term loss of nesting structure. | Ongoing, annual NSO surveys have never found a NSO nest within 0.25 miles of the project area (a ridgeline). JDSF is currently being invaded by the barred owl which occurs over two-thirds of the forest. | No impact; project will not remove suitable habitat trees (trees 11"-dbh and greater). |
| Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>) | SE, CDF-Sensitive | Found inland, a few sightings along the Mendocino coast but not nesting. | No history of nesting on JDSF. No open hunting habitat on JDSF. | No impact. |
| Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>) | CDF-Sensitive, CDFW FP | Found inland from the coast, usually open areas, oak woodlands. | No history of nesting on JDSF. No open hunting habitat on JDSF. | No impact. |
| American Peregrine Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>) | SE, CDF-Sensitive, CDFW FP | Nests on cliffs, rocky outcrops. Nearest known nesting history is east of JDSF. | No history of nesting anywhere on JDSF. | No impact; no rocky outcrops in project area. |
| White-tailed Kite (<i>Elanus leucurus</i>) | CDFW FP | Nests rarely in conifer forest, hunts in open areas. | No history of nesting on JDSF. | No impact; project will not remove the larger, taller potential nesting trees. |
| Marbled Murrelet (<i>Brachyramphus marmuratus</i>) | FT, SE | Only 50 birds in Region 5. Nearest known detections are near the coast in Russian Gulch State Park, over 5 miles away. | The project will occur outside of 0.25 miles from unsurveyed habitat. The Whiskey Springs and 14 Gulch Habitats have a determination of probable absence from CDFW. | No impact; the project areas avoids all known habitat. |
| Nesting: Northern Goshawk (<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>) | SSC, CDF-sensitive | Historically, a few nests found inland from JDSF. | Extremely unlikely to nest on JDSF. | No impact; project will not occur during the nesting season and project will not remove larger trees that could be used for nesting. |

| Species | Status | Comments on species natural history, or known distribution, or threats. | Likelihood to be found on JDSF, and/or in project area. | Assessment of Potential Impact to the Species |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| Nesting: Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus</i>) Cooper's Hawk (<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>) | CDFW Watch List | Statewide except for highest Sierra peaks and some Central Valley. Sharp-shinned more restricted to forested habitats. Stick nests difficult to find, birds elusive unless protecting nest. | Sharp-shinned: There are less than two incidental and/or anecdotal observations on JDSF. Coopers: more than five incidental and/or anecdotal sightings, but still few on JDSF. May nest in a variety of tree sizes (DBH). | No impact; project will not occur during the nesting season (March-August: CDFW). |
| Nesting: Osprey (<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) | CDF- Sensitive, CDFW Watch List | Nests in large, tall, usually dead snags near open bodies of water with fish. Large nest easily seen. | A few historic nests known from JDSF within a few miles of the coast. One nest was located near McGuire's Pond for a short period over 10 miles from the coast. | No impact; no known nesting trees in project area, no nearby bodies of water for hunting. |
| Nesting: Great Blue Heron (<i>Ardea herodias</i>) - rookery | CDF- Sensitive | Nests in groups near open water or large rivers. Resident, seasonal short migratory movements to breeding areas. | No rookeries found on JDSF. Individual birds have been seen on JDSF streams hunting. | No impact |
| Nesting: Great Egret (<i>Casmerodius albus</i>)- rookery | CDF- Sensitive | Nests in groups near open water or large rivers. Resident of lowlands. Feeds in shallows. | No rookeries found on JDSF. | No impact |
| Nesting: Vaux's Swift (<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>) | SSC | Migratory. Forested regions of the Sierra, Klamath and coastal regions. Nests in very large basal hollows that are chimney-like. | Low, but known from one or two old growth trees with large basal hollows on JDSF. | No impact; there are no old growth trees with large, chimney-like hollows on the project area. |
| Nesting: Purple Martin (<i>Progne subis arboricola</i>) | SSC | Migratory, absent in winter. Forested regions of the coast and Sierra. Nests in tall, older trees in larger cavities - about the size of the largest woodpecker holes. | Medium, documented at several locations on JDSF during early morning marbled murrelet surveys. | Low potential to affect species habitat trees because no trees are proposed for removal. |
| Nesting: Olive-sided Flycatcher (<i>Contopus cooperi</i>) | SSC | Migratory. Nests at edge of forest near openings. Uses tallest trees to aerial fly-catch from. Catches bumblebees. | Extremely unlikely to nest in dense forested areas on JDSF, may be found near openings such as Camp 20, McGuire's Pond, coastal suburban areas. | No impact; no open forested areas, all dense coniferous forest. |
| Nesting: Tricolored Blackbird (<i>Agelaius tricolor</i>) | SSC | Resident of Calif. Nests on open water with cattails. Nearest known nesting location is on McGuire's pond, about 6 miles to the southwest. | No nesting habitat on JDSF. | No impact; no nesting habitat in or near project area. |

| Species | Status | Comments on species natural history, or known distribution, or threats. | Likelihood to be found on JDSF, and/or in project area. | Assessment of Potential Impact to the Species |
|---|----------------------|---|--|--|
| Nesting: Yellow Warbler (<i>Dendroica petechia brewsteri</i>) | SSC | Nests in deciduous riparian habitats of low, open canopy woodlands, at <2500 feet. | Extremely Low; not heard on JDSF (TF personal communication), and nests in willow or alder riparian areas. | No impact; no riparian red alder or willow areas in project area. |
| REPTILES and AMPHIBIANS | | | | |
| Foothill Yellow-legged Frog (<i>Rana boylei</i>) | SC (6/21/17), SSC | Statewide except Central Valley and deserts. Breeds in larger streams with warm sunny rocks and low flows. Adults go upstream to overwinter. <u>Usually near water.</u> | Species is documented from central and eastern parts of JDSF in larger, fish-bearing streams. | No impact; no habitat, no watercourses with water present in project areas. |
| Northern Red-legged Frog (<i>Rana aurora</i>) | SSC | Range: Coastal mountains from Elk to state line. Inhabits quiet pools of streams, marshes, and occasionally ponds. Can be found away from water. | Known from central and western streambanks in JDSF | Extremely low potential to impact to terrestrial adult frogs; project areas avoid any large streams. Project will not occur during the wet season. |
| Western Tailed Frog (<i>Ascaphus truei</i>) | SSC | | Medium/Low, tadpoles previously documented by CDFW in a few streams in JDSF. | No impact; no streams with fast-moving water in project area. |
| Northwestern Pond Turtle (<i>Actinemys marmorata marmorata</i>) | SSC | Statewide, occupies open waters with areas for solar exposure. | Known from JDSF at or near larger streams; ex: Chamberlain Creek, Caspar Creek, etc. | No impact; no open water habitat in project area. |
| Southern Torrent Salamander (<i>Rhyacotriton variegatus</i>) | SSC | See CNDDDB layer, a few records for JDSF, but likely to be found in appropriate habitat. | Medium/Low | No impact; no permanent seeps are located where equipment will be located. |
| Red-bellied Newt (<i>Taricha rivularis</i>) | SSC | Coastal mountains north of the Bay Area to Humboldt Co. Breeds in <u>faster flowing streams</u> , does not breed in ponds. | Two historic CNDDDB records on JDSF; James Creek near Hwy 20/NF Big River, and Chamberlain Creek near Hwy 20/NF Big River. | No impact; no habitat in project area. |
| FISH | | | | |
| Coho Salmon (<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>) | FE, SE | Central and Northern coastal CA. | High, known from multiple Class I watercourses downstream of the project area. | No impact; no habitat, no fish-bearing watercourses in project area. |
| Steelhead (Rainbow Trout) (<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>) | FT, SSC | Most JDSF Class I streams. Jumps higher obstacles, and tolerates higher stream temps than coho. | High, known from multiple Class I watercourses downstream of the project area. | No impact; no habitat, no fish-bearing watercourses in project area. |
| Chinook Salmon – California coastal chinook (<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>) – Federally Threatened | FT | West coast ESU is from Russian River north to Redwood Creek near Humboldt. | A few records on JDSF in large Class I streams. | No impact; no habitat, no fish-bearing watercourses in project area. |

| Species | Status | Comments on species natural history, or known distribution, or threats. | Likelihood to be found on JDSF, and/or in project area. | Assessment of Potential Impact to the Species |
|--|---------------------|--|---|---|
| Pacific Lamprey (<i>Entosphenus tridentatus</i>) | SSC | Class I streams. Ammocoete stage (0-7 years) found in soft mud of tail outs. Then migrate to ocean for 1-4 years. | Species has been documented during CDFW downstream migrant trapping for salmon. | No impact; no habitat in project area. |
| River Lamprey (<i>Lampetra ayresii</i>) | SSC | Not documented by CDFW. | Unknown from JDSF. | No impact. |
| RARE PLANT COMMUNITIES | | | | |
| Sphagnum Bog | | In Mendocino-Cypress Pygmy Forest. Characterized by reindeer lichen and low pH. | Found on JDSF in pygmy forest; western end of JDSF. | No impact; none in project area. |
| Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh | | Larger river floodplains on Mendocino coast. | A few small freshwater marshes occur on JDSF. Usually they are old ponds created by historic logging practices. | No impact; none in project area. |
| Mendocino Cypress Pygmy Forest | | From Sonoma to Mendocino coast –on Marine Terraces 3-5. Usually within 5 miles of the ocean. Acidic soils, with hardpan. | This plant community is found on a few western slopes of JDSF. | No impact; none in project area. |
| INSECTS | | | | |
| Behren's Silverspot Butterfly (<i>Speyeria zerene behrensii</i>) | FE | Inhabits coastal terrace prairie habitat, from Russian River in Sonoma co. to Point Arena in Mendocino Co. | No Behren's silverspot habitat on JDSF. | No impact. |
| Obscure bumblebee (<i>Bombus caliginosus</i>) | IUCN; Vulnerable | Inhabits open grassy coastal prairies and Coast Range meadows. | No meadow habitat in project area. | No impact. |